**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re: Application of: David SCHAIBLE, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/010,907  
Filed: November 2, 2001  
For: **PROCESS FOR PRODUCING  
MICROCRYSTALLINE CELLULOSE**  
Examiner: Mark Halpern (Art Unit: 1731)

MAIL STOP: Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 4, 2003

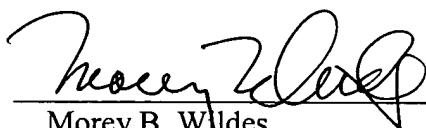
**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT**

S I R:

In a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated November 25, 2003 from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the above-identified application, the USPTO advised that Applicants' Response to Office Action dated November 4, 2003 was non-compliant due to improper status identifiers for claims 1, 12 and 18. In response, Applicants herewith resubmits the "Amendments to the Claims" section of Applicants' Response to Office Action, wherein claims 1, 12 and 18 have proper status identifiers, namely "Currently Amended".

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is requested. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,  
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By:   
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Image

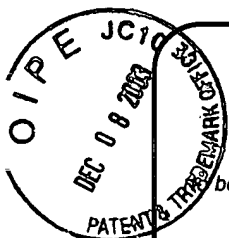
PTO/SB/21 (05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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1731



# TRANSMITTAL FORM

be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

|   |   |                        |                  |
|---|---|------------------------|------------------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br>be used for all correspondence after initial filing) |   | Application Number     | 10/010,907       |
|   |   | Filing Date            | November 2, 2001 |
|   |   | First Named Inventor   | David SCHAIBLE   |
|   |   | Group Art Unit         | 1731             |
|   |   | Examiner Name          | Mark Halpern     |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 6 | Attorney Docket Number | 541.1029US2      |

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br><b>- Return Receipt Postcard</b> |
| Remarks  |   |   |

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

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| Signature       |  |           |                |          |                |
| Date            | December 4, 2003                           |           |                |          |                |

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

|                       |               |      |                  |
|-----------------------|---------------|------|------------------|
| Typed or printed name | Patricia Kane |      |                  |
| Signature             |               | Date | December 4, 2003 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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